

Appl. No. 09/657,685  
Amtd. Dated March 23, 2004  
Reply to Office action of December 23, 2003  
Attorney Docket No. P12227-US2  
EUS/J/P/04-3064

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for enabling communication between a first network in which control functions and user functions are combined in a first node and a second network in which user functions and control functions are separately implemented in second and third nodes, respectively, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a communication in the third node;

determining whether the received communication [[data]] contains control data;  
[[and]]

if the received data contains control data, extracting control data from the received communication; [[data and]]

forwarding the control data to the second node for resource handling; and  
processing user data from the communication in the third node.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein if the received communication [[data]] does not contain control data, the received communication [[data]] is processed by the third second node and then forwarded to the first node.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the steps of extracting and forwarding control data are performed in the second node.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first network is a second generation packet data network, and the second network is a third generation packet data network.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the first network is a second generation Global Packet Radio Service (GPRS) network, and the second network is a third generation Universal Mobile Telecommunication System (UMTS) network.

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6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for enabling communication between a first network in which control functions and user functions are combined in a first node and a second network in which control functions and user functions are separately implemented in second and third nodes, respectively, the apparatus comprising:

a receiver in the third node for receiving a communication;

a detector for detecting whether the received communication [[data]] contains control data;

a protocol splitter [[device]] for extracting detected control data from the received communication; [[data]] and forwarding the control data to the third node for resource handling, wherein user data from the communication is processed in the third node, if the detector determines that the received data contains control data.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein if the received communication [[data]] does not contain control data, the received communication [[data]] is forwarded by the third node to the first node.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the splitter device is included in the third node.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the first network is a second generation packet data network, and the second network is a third generation packet data network.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the first network is a second generation Global Packet Radio Service (GPRS) network, and the second network is a third generation Universal Mobile Telecommunication System (UMTS) network.

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11. (Currently Amended) A system for enabling communication between a first network in which control functions and user functions are combined in the same node and another network in which user functions and control function are implemented in separate nodes, the system comprising:

a first node in the first network, wherein user functions and control functions are handled in the first node;

a second node in the second network wherein control functions user functions are handled in the second node;

a third node in the second network wherein user functions control functions are handled in the third node; and

a device for determining whether a received communication [[data]] contains control data, and, if the received communication [[data]] contains control data, extracting control data from the received communication [[data]] and forwarding the control data to the second third node.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein if the third node wants to forward control data to the first node, the third node first forwards the control data to the second node, which converts the control data to GTP returns the converted control data to the third node and the third node forwards the GTP control data to the first node.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the splitter device is included in the second node.

14. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the first network is a second generation packet data network, and the second network is a third generation packet data network.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the first network is a second generation Global Packet Radio Service (GPRS) network, and the second

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network is a third generation Universal Mobile Telecommunication System (UMTS) network.

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